

Sustainable Communities Grant & Loan Program

Annual Report of Activities 2009

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CALIFORNIA POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY

Sustainable Communities Grant and Loan Program Report of Activities 2009

This report of activities for the Sustainable Communities Grant and Loan Program is submitted pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 44525.6 for the calendar year ending December 31, 2009.

BACKGROUND

Legislation sponsored by the State Treasurer's Office [AB 779 (Torlakson), Ch. 914 of Statutes of 2000] authorized the creation of a financial assistance program to assist cities and counties in their community planning and development efforts. In response to this legislation, the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA) implemented the Sustainable Communities Grant and Loan Program (SCGL).

The initial legislation authorized up to \$2.5 million in grant and loan funding for developing and implementing policies, programs and projects that: reduce pollution hazards and the degradation of the environment; assist in the revitalization of one or more California neighborhoods that suffer from high unemployment levels, low-income levels and/or high poverty; and/or promote Infill Development. In order to assist communities to meet these strategic objectives consistent with sustainable development principles, CPCFA staff designed a program that provides maximum assistance per awardee of up to \$500,000 consisting of up to \$350,000 in grant funding and up to \$150,000 in loan assistance.

In response to demand for the program, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 199 on August 30, 2002 (Torlakson), which increased the total potential funding by \$2.5 million (to \$5 million). The Authority approved \$4,161,558 of funding for a total of fourteen projects (See Attachment A).

In September 2006 the Legislature passed Senate Bill 1341 (Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials), which increased the total potential funding by \$2.5 million (for a total program funding of \$7.5 million) and extended the operation of the program to January 1, 2012. The Authority solicited proposals and received 68 applications. In October of 2007, the Authority awarded grant funding totaling \$2,423,515 to seven new projects. These projects are currently in various stages of development and are described in more detail in Exhibit I.

There are no plans for future funding rounds under the SCGL program.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The SCGL program was designed to be flexible and encourage creativity. Funding has been awarded to communities that are implementing policies, programs and projects using sustainable development principles. All Projects that were eligible to receive awards encompassed sustainable development principles. The Program's guidelines for eligible Projects include:

- Specific plans, or portions of specific plans that direct the nature of development and revitalization within the boundaries of a required general plan consistent with sustainable development principles.
- Alternative transportation studies, urban design studies, finance plans, redevelopment plans and engineering studies that facilitate sustainable development.

- Projects such as a community center, park enhancements, or infrastructure improvements that are key elements of a comprehensive community or neighborhood sustainable development plan.
- Funding for local communities to hire individuals at various stages of the planning process (e.g., hiring a new staff member or consultant to assist an individual community with the design and/or implementation of a particular plan for development or revitalization using sustainable development principles).
- Engagement of technical experts to identify, assess, and complete applications for state, federal and private economic assistance programs that fund sustainable development and sound environmental policies and programs.

Rather than focus on one prescriptive approach to realize sustainable development objectives, SCGL was designed to provide funding for programs, policies and projects that will best result in achieving the sustainable development goals of the program under a variety of circumstances in communities throughout the State.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

City of Los Angeles – Cornfield/Arroyo Seco Specific Plan

For an established community with limited this project represents resources, planning comprehensive strategy sustainable growth and development with strong high density land use, transportation, pollution reduction and economic revitalization themes. The standards and enhancements used in this project can be used as a model for other high poverty, urbanized areas that are experiencing underutilized infrastructure, pollution, and transportation issues.

The Sustainable Communities grant awarded to the City of Los Angeles enabled the creation of sustainability enhancements to the Cornfields/Arroyo Seco Specific Plan, which includes the development of river-related restoration opportunities to promote best land practices and uses, development of a multi-

modal standard for the plan area encouraging innovative parking strategies and an eco-business development and job assessment to identify potential business, job, and educational opportunities.

The Project was completed in the third quarter of 2009.

Artist rendering of Sustainable Elements to Specific Plan



[&]quot;The Grant provided the resources to complete substantial stormwater, open space, eco-business, and multi-modal analysis that resulted in the identification of strategies to treat and infiltrate stormwater on-site, improve water quality, increase groundwater recharge, increase open space, reduce traffic volumes, reduce parking demand, increase transit use, and provide improved travel conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists. Without these funds and the analysis that they made possible, the Plan would not have been able to implement the wide variety of sustainable development strategies that are currently proposed for the Plan area." S. Gail Goldberg, Director of Planning, City of Los Angeles

LOANS AND GRANTS

2007 Funding Round

During the 2007 funding round, 68 applications from cities and counties throughout California were received. Seven projects were selected and each awarded approximately \$350,000. As noted previously, awardees from the 2007 funding round are in various stages of project implementation (See Exhibit I for a description of each project funded).

2007 Funding Round				
	Selected Projects and Fund Balances as of December 31, 2009			
Awardee	Award	Disbursed	Balance	Project Description
Compton	\$350,000	\$52,614	\$297,385	Smart Growth Code & Zoning Audit
Fort Bragg*	350,000	0	319,500	Land Use Plan/General Plan
				Revisions
Hayward	350,000	200,000	150,000	Brownfield Acquisition and Cleanup
Livingston	350,000	0	350,000	Construction and Renovation
Los Angeles	350,000	350,000	0	Specific Plan
San Diego	350,000	129,368	220,631	Hiring Experts for Specific Plan
Willits	323,512	0	323,512	Implementation of Water Study Plan
Total	\$2,423,512	\$731,982	\$1,661,028	

NOTE: See Exhibit I for description of 2007 projects.

In summary, total funding awards for the program in 2007 was \$2,423,512, later revised to \$2,393,012, with a total of \$731,982 disbursed as of December 31, 2009.

^{*}Award amended from \$350,000 to \$319,500

EXHIBIT I

2007 FUNDING ROUND PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

ALAMEDA COUNTY

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: County of Alameda

CO-APPLICANT: Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD)

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: HOLLAND OIL PROPERTY PROJECT

LAND ACQUISITION AND PARK DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT LOCATION: Ashland Area of San Leandro

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Acquire, cleanup, and develop a park from a 2.47 acre parcel of

land previously used by Holland Oil Company.

On behalf of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD) the County of Alameda was awarded funds to help with the acquisition, brownfield cleanup and development of the 2.47-acre Holland oil property to help fulfill the community's need for open park space. With the acquisition of this property, HARD will be able to connect 1.65 acres of land to existing recreational spaces, including Ashland Little League Field, Edendale Park, and the grounds of Edendale Middle School, which total 11.25 acres and will become the new community park that will offer a broad range of recreational opportunities for the residents of the Ashland district. The creation of the park, gymnastic center, and the planned business and affordable housing development on the property will create new economic development with new jobs, which will enhance the neighborhood's economic competitiveness. The remainder of the Holland Oil property will be purchased and developed by the Alameda County Redevelopment Agency.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Holland Oil Property Project will assist the park district to further sustainable development goals by:

- *Pollution control strategies* will reduce toxins and pollutants in the site stemming from its prior use as a bulk oil/gasoline storage facility. Once the cleanup is complete, the most polluted portion of the property will be turned into the first "green space" along the East 14th Street thoroughfare and the lesser contaminated land will be developed for commercial uses and affordable housing.
 - *Economic development strategies* promote economic growth in an older area, which suffers from lack of economic development, by creating a park, business and housing development that will undoubtedly create new jobs and increase revenue.

County of Alameda Continued

• Infill development strategies include planning and developing an efficient, higher density use of land where the needs of the residents of the community and the agency officials were taken into account.

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

The Project represents a model for communities that face diminishing funds for recreation projects and demonstrates how to effectively plan, raise funds, and collaborate with other agencies to see a project to fruition. This project is applicable and could be transferred to other economically depressed communities that have a contaminated, abandoned, and blight-ridden parcel of land in that it shows how to turn it into a recreational area where the neighborhood children and adults can enjoy the outdoors.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- Acquisition of land cost estimate; and
- Cleanup cost estimate.

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING	FUNDING
SOURCE OF FUNDS	REQUEST	RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grant	\$ <u>350,000</u>	<u>\$ 350,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 350,000</u>	<u>\$ 350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS		
Acquisition of land	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Cleanup costs	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 350,000</u>	<u>\$ 350,000</u>

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The acquisition of the former Holland Oil property, funded in part by the SCGL Program, was completed in the first quarter of 2008. The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD) will continue to work with a professional environmental firm to complete the next phase of the project. The next phase involves the Brownfield cleanup of the 2.47-acre property which will help provide the much needed open park space for the surrounding community.

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Continued

The Alameda County Environmental Department has approved a clean-up plan which has been incorporated into the plans and specifications. The bids were publicly opened in August of 2009 and the lowest qualified bidder, O.C. Jones and Sons, was awarded the contract for cleanup. The cleanup work began in September of 2009. The environmental firm of Ninyo and Moore has been monitoring and testing the site during and after the cleanup. HARD anticipates the project will be completed by the second quarter of 2010.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$200,000 (57.1% of grant award).

COMPTON

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Compton

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: BRICKYARD SITE TRANSIT-ORIENTED SPECIFIC PLAN

PROJECT LOCATION: Compton – Brickyard Site

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Transit-oriented infill development plan for the Brickyard Site

Area.

The City of Compton was awarded planning funds for developing opportunities for revitalization, as well as economic, and transit oriented development for a 105-acre project area known as the Brickyard Site. The project area is located on the northwest corner of Compton between Rosecrans Avenue on the south, and 135th Street on the north.

Currently, the Brickyard Site is zoned for heavy manufacturing, but is surrounded primarily by residential and commercial uses. The Brickyard Site is part of the City's consolidated Redevelopment Project Area and exhibits signs of physical and economic blight characterized by underutilization, high vacancy rates, business closures, and inadequate and outdated infrastructure.

The City has partnered with the University of Southern California Center for Economic Development to conduct the Smart Growth Code and Zoning Audit and prepare the Transit-Oriented Specific Plan. The Center is currently preparing the update to the City's General Plan and developed the Smart Growth Code and Zoning Audit Tool for U.S. EPA in partnership with the Smart Growth Leadership Institute, a project of Smart Growth America. Blodgett/Baylosis Associates Inc. (BBA) will perform the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the specific plan.

SCGL funds will be used for development of a Smart Growth Code and Zoning Audit, the creation of a Transit-Oriented Specific Plan and an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The end result will be a specific plan that will include:

- *Infill Development strategies* by providing affordable housing through live/work units, commercial, and light industrial uses will diversify the economic base and provide the necessary jobs-housing balance.
- Economic Development strategies that will bring mixed use development to the project area thus stimulating economic growth through retail, commercial, industrial, and recreational venues; and

City of Compton Continued

- *Transit-Oriented strategies* that reduce reliance on private vehicles by providing transit, bike lanes, and increased pedestrian connectivity within this higher density development thereby reducing pollutants in the air; and
- *Energy efficiency strategies* that incorporate smart growth measures which include green energy, green building, and water conservation techniques to minimize environmental impact.

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

This project represents a comprehensive planning strategy for sustainable growth and development with strong land-use, transportation, and economic revitalization themes. Though the idea of mixed-use developments is not new, the specific plan in an existing, high poverty urban area that reinforces a jobs-housing balance, transit-oriented development, energy efficiency, and green building is certainly applicable and transferable to other urban communities.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- Smart Growth Code and Zoning Audit, Specific Plan and EIR.
- Phase I Environmental Assessment

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING	FUNDING
SOURCE OF FUNDS	REQUEST	RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$150,000	\$ 0
Grant	<u>350,000</u>	350,000
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS		
Smart Growth Code & Zoning	\$300,000	\$300,000
Audit and Specific Plan and EIR		
Phase I Environmental	50,000	50,000
Assessment		
Pre-Development Loan Pool	150,000	$\phantom{aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa$
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

⁽a) No specific costs cut identified at this time. The City asserts that it can proceed with the project without the loan funding.

CITY OF COMPTON Continued

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The Atkinson Brickyard Site project team spent the first half of 2009 turning the vision that had been developed through community meetings in the summer of 2006, during the General Plan outreach process, into a land use plan. The first task was to develop alternate scenarios for the site that could realize the vision of the community.

During the Fall of 2009, the chosen scenario was developed into a phased development plan. The combined scenario includes the following uses: residential, residential over retail, entertainment, office over retail, food service, public/institutional, light industrial, and open space. The phasing plan was needed to account for the timing involved in gaining site control for the redevelopment process. The portion of the site that can be developed first is the portion which has historically operated as a brick manufacturer. It covers 80% of the site and the owner is actively seeking a buyer who will develop it according to the Specific Plan. The Redevelopment Department of the City has spoken to several developers during the past year, but no one has taken the final step. The Redevelopment Department has also begun negotiations with another developer about acquiring a second large vacant parcel that is adjacent to the brickyard.

In the phased development plan, the site is divided into four sub-areas that are labeled in the order in which they are planned to be developed from A to D. Most of the brickyard site is located within Sub-Area A and the balance is located in Sub-Area B. Sub-Areas C and D are expected to transition more slowly as there are current uses occupying those sites. The proposed new land use will increase the value of the land so redevelopment is expected to take place once the first two phases take off.

Two alternative phasing plans were presented by the project team. Proposed development densities and development totals were also provided. The City ultimately chose a phasing plan that begins with residential development to spur the development of the central civic plaza, which is an important element in the City's vision for this area.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$52,614.85 (15.03% of grant award).

FORT BRAGG

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Fort Bragg

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY SPECIFIC PLAN FOR THE GEORGIA-

PACIFIC MILL SITE

PROJECT LOCATION: 500 acres within the City of Fort Bragg

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Develop a specific plan for revitalization of a 425-acre former

Georgia-Pacific lumber mill site.

The City of Fort Bragg was awarded planning funds to create a specific plan for the redevelopment, and revitalization of a 425-acre former Georgia-Pacific lumber mill site. The site is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the north by McKerricher State Park (Glass Beach) and on the east by a mix of low-income residential and commercial areas and Highway One. The property was used for the storage and processing of timber for over 100 years. The mill was permanently closed in 2002 and resulted in the loss of over a thousand jobs.

Currently, the abandoned mill site is subject to a cleanup order by the Department of Toxics and Substance Control (DTSC) and a site investigation is in process to determine the types and extent of soil and groundwater contamination. The mill site represents an opportunity for Fort Bragg to revitalize and redevelop residential, commercial, environmental and economic growth around "the only significant undeveloped piece of property within the City limits." The mill site represents the City's future for the development of affordable housing, mixed-use projects, and retail and commercial development.

SCGL funds will be used to assist the City in a five phase planning process to revitalize the former mill site.

Phase I: Understanding the Specific Plan Area - this includes refining the scope of work, preparing land use and design materials, and preparing an economic and market analysis;

Phase II: Refining the Vision for the Mill Site – includes a conceptual land use plan, vision, economic development strategy, community involvement workshops, and fiscal impact analysis;

Phase III: Completing and Implementing the Plan – includes the preparation of the final specific land use plan, and City Council public hearings;

Phase IV: Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) – includes preparation of a draft and final EIR and;

CITY OF FORT BRAGG Continued

Phase V: Post Specific Planning – includes implementing General Plan amendments and local coastal program amendment, and a Mill Pond restoration plan.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The resulting strategies developed from Fort Bragg's specific plan will include:

- Economic development strategies that provide principles and concepts for re-zoning vacant industrial land parcels for job-generating commercial uses, and affordable residential housing.
- *Transit Strategies* that reduce reliance on private vehicles through the development of a commuter Class One bicycle lane through the center of the mill site, development of the coastal trail connecting Fort Bragg to the north coast, and the development of a pedestrian-friendly connection from downtown to the coast.
- *Pollution control strategies* that ensure that the mill site contamination is cleaned up to levels that accommodate future land uses, installation of a storm water management system to reduce run-off, and restoration of the Mill Pond to a natural drainage system.

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

For a small community, this project represents a comprehensive planning strategy for smart and sustainable growth and development with strong infill, land use, transportation, and housing themes. This project has broad applicability to other small cities that are economically dependent on a single large industrial employer and the challenges that it faces when that employer closes its operations.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- Preparation of a land use plan and community involvement framework and materials;
- An Environmental Impact Report (EIR);
- Amendments to the General Plan and other technical review documents; and
- Community outreach and marketing efforts.

CITY OF FORT BRAGG Continued

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING REQUEST	FUNDING RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$149,957	\$ 0
Grant	<u>350,000</u>	350,000
Total	<u>\$499,957</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS Preparation of land use plan Strategic Action Plan/	\$319,852	\$319,852 ^(a)
General Plan Revisions EIR	164,105	30,148
Supplies and other costs	16,000	0
Total	<u>\$ 499,957</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

(a) No specific costs cut identified at this time. The City asserts that it can proceed with the project without the loan funding.

AMENDED USE OF FUNDS

(APPROVED JUNE 5, 2009)

Preparation of land use plan Strategic Action Plan/ General Plan Revisions

Total <u>\$ 319,500</u>

Note: CPCFA approved a budget amendment to accommodate the grantee's ability to obtain additional funding for the project from the responsible party, the Georgia-Pacific Corporation (additional information below).

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The Georgia-Pacific Corporation, the owner of the property, has borne the costs of the project thus far including the development of the land-use plan/strategic plan and the implementation of the Community Participation Program. Therefore, in June 2009, CPCFA approved the City's request to change the scope of work for the Project and eligible use of the grant funds to be used for the preparation of the Land Use Strategic Action Plan/ General Plan Revisions and amend the grant amount to \$319,500.

CITY OF FORT BRAGG Continued

Georgia-Pacific has continued to work with the City to manage the work of the consultant team to focus on various components of the Specific Plan through monthly meetings. As part of the change of scope of the Project, the SCGL portion of the Project includes the Coastal Trail Design and Engineering and the Main Street Plan.

For the Coastal Trail Design portion, City staff selected Harris Design and Rau Engineering as the consultant team to prepare the design and engineering documents. The planning process was initiated with a community site tour with the participation of about 100 people. A coastal trail design survey was developed and distributed. The results of the survey are scheduled to be collated and analyzed by February 2010.

For the Main Street Plan, city staff reviewed 11 proposals from qualified urban designers and community planners. Opticos Design, Inc. was selected as the prime consultant, and a kick-off meeting was conducted. An initial public meeting is scheduled for mid-February 2010 and a three-day design charrette has been planned for mid-March 2010.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$0 (0% of grant award). The City of Fort Bragg submitted its first disbursement request the first quarter of 2010.

LIVINGSTON

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Livingston

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: LIVINGSTON COURT THEATER PROJECT

PROJECT LOCATION: Downtown/620 Main Street

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Rehabilitation of the Court Theater, a vacant building in the

commercial district.

The City of Livingston, located in the San Joaquin Valley, was awarded funds to rehabilitate and renovate the Court Theater, a vacant building located along Main Street in the City's downtown commercial district. The Court Theater was originally designed and built in 1946 and served as the City's entertainment focal point until its closure in 1977. At present time, the abandoned building has deteriorated and fallen into a state of disrepair.

The main objective of the project is to convert the existing 1946 movie theater into a multi-use Dinner Theater and Performing Arts Center of approximately 8,000 square feet, and flanked by two-story commercial buildings totaling approximately 12,000 square feet. The renovation will include the movie theater and seating along with a stage for live theater performances. The commercial buildings will feature office space that will be available to local private and public service agencies centralizing essential services for the residents of Livingston and surrounding communities. The SCGL funds will be used to assist the City in paying for a portion of the construction and renovation of this historical building.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The resulting strategies from Livingston's restoration of the Court Theater will promote economic development by establishing shopping, office space, services, and entertainment venues that are in close proximity to housing. Thus, creating a revitalized area that will become the economic anchor of downtown Livingston. The project serves as an ideal example of infill development because it entails creating new development on vacant lots, renovation of underutilized buildings, and the rehabilitation of historic buildings for new uses. Livingston is located within the Merced County Enterprise Zone, which makes it attractive to businesses that are looking for incentives to start a business there. The main bus line also has a stop directly in front of the Court Theater, which makes it convenient for residents and visitors to use public transportation to get to the theater.

CITY OF LIVINGSTON Continued

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

This project is applicable to any Central Valley community that suffers from economic hardship and is plagued by blight created by abandoned or underutilized buildings. The project puts to use a structure that has been inoperable for 30 years. The building has steadily deteriorated since its closure in 1977. This project would put an end to blight and restore a local treasure, reviving a significant piece of Livingston's history.

While the project itself constitutes infill development, it will also promote infill development in an area of town that has declined in recent decades. Rather than building outward, new businesses will have incentive to establish themselves at the town's center, near a thriving entertainment and commercial hub.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes paying a portion of the construction and renovation of the Court Theater building.

	FUNDING	FUNDING
SOURCE OF FUNDS	REQUEST	RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grant	<u>350,000</u>	350,000
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS		
Construction and Renovation	\$350,000	\$350,000
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The City of Livingston has been working with an architect to revise construction documents and make revisions based on recommendations received from the Building Department. The City Engineer is in the process of adjusting the lot line to extend the building area into an alley, and working with the Project Engineer in the relocation of public utilities such as water, sewer, and electricity lines. Once the lot line adjustment is completed, the City will be ready to competitively bid the project for construction.

The City of Livingston needs to secure additional funding of approximately \$5-6 million before construction begins. Due to the uncertain economic times, the City has not been able to secure

CITY OF LIVINGSTON Continued

the additional funding needed to start the project. It is anticipated that once the financing is secured the project will continue rapidly in three phases of development.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$0 (0% of grant award).

LOS ANGELES

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Los Angeles

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: CORNFIELD/ARROYO SECO SPECIFIC PLAN

PROJECT LOCATION: Cornfields/Arroyo Seco

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Sustainability enhancements to the Cornfields/Arroyo Seco

Specific Plan

The City of Los Angeles was awarded planning funds to create sustainability enhancements to a 400 acre area, located north of downtown Los Angeles, that includes a new State Historic Park, two light-rail stations, a significant industrial neighborhood, a public housing project, the Los Angeles River and the I-5 freeway. The proposed enhancements include development of river-related restoration opportunities to promote best land practices and uses, development of a multi-modal standard for the plan area encouraging innovative parking strategies and an eco-business development and job assessment to identify potential business, job, and educational opportunities.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The end result will be a specific plan that will include:

- *Pollution reduction strategies* that will reduce storm water runoff contamination to the Los Angeles river, reduction of transportation related pollution, and promoting green businesses.
- *Transit strategies* that promote alternative transportation options such as public transportation, pedestrian and bicycle–friendly areas, multi-modal parking to allow for greater access and mobility, and providing affordable housing at higher densities.
- Economic Development strategies that will address promoting more businesses within the area, which will in turn increase the number of jobs in the area, helping to alleviate some of the strain of high poverty and unemployment of area residents. Also being addressed is the balance of affordable housing related to the number of jobs available.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES Continued

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

For an established community with limited resources, this project represents a comprehensive planning strategy for sustainable growth and development with strong high density land use, transportation, pollution reduction and economic revitalization themes. The standards and enhancements used in this project can be used as a model for other high poverty, urbanized areas that are experiencing underutilized infrastructure, pollution, and transportation issues.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- Assessment and analysis analysis of development of river-related restoration opportunities, conducting a green roofs assessment of existing buildings, establishing a storm water management standard, development of a multi-modal standard for the plan area, and ecobusiness development and job assessment.
- Program promotion and marketing.
- Meetings.

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING REQUEST	FUNDING RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grant	<u>350,000</u>	350,000
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS		
Personnel – hiring of a	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Professional Student Worker		
Contractual – Assessment and	300,000	300,000
Analysis		4 = 000
Program promotion	15,000	15,000
Meetings	10,000	10,000
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

CITY OF LOS ANGELES Continued

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The City of Los Angeles utilized the SCGL grant to create sustainability enhancements to its Cornfield Arroyo Seco Specific Plan. The second draft Specific Plan was prepared in March 2009 which included input from stakeholders from public meetings. As of December 2009, a subsequent draft of the Plan was prepared that included updated strategies that resulted from the work in the summer of 2009 by the student professional interns and the preparation of the environmental impact report by the consultant team, Arup North America Ltd.

The Project was completed the last quarter of 2009. The City indicated that without the SCGL grant and the analysis that the funds made possible, the Cornfield/Arroyo Seco Specific Plan would not have been able to implement the wide variety of sustainable development strategies that are currently proposed for the Plan area.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$350,000 (entire grant award used).

SAN DIEGO

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of San Diego

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: BARRIO LOGAN COMMUNITY PLAN AND ZONING

PROGRAM UPDATE

PROJECT LOCATION: Barrio Logan – Community Plan Area

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Create a planning and zoning update in Barrio Logan, including

transportation and infill plans.

The City of San Diego was awarded planning funds to conduct a comprehensive planning and zoning update in the community of Barrio Logan, located south of the downtown area. The specific plan will address the challenges and issues facing the community that include land use incompatibilities, significant air-borne and water-borne pollution and transportation deficiencies.

The revised Barrio Logan Community Plan will offer policy direction in the areas of urban form, neighborhood character, historic preservation, public facilities, and equitable development while keeping the needs of its residents at the forefront.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The resulting strategies developed from Barrio Logan's Community specific plan will reduce pollution hazards and the degradation of the environment by eliminating co-location hazards from incompatible land uses. A residential/industrial co-location and buffer study will be prepared to identify opportunities for employment uses and areas within Barrio Logan that are appropriate for locating workforce-housing opportunities while balancing the need to create a buffer between industrial and residential uses. The analysis will produce strategies which minimize land use conflicts.

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

For an established community with limited resources, this project represents a comprehensive planning strategy for sustainable growth and development with strong land use, transportation, community input, and economic revitalization themes. The project has broad applicability to similarly sized, resource-constrained communities in the state of facing significant land use issues and conflicts.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- Hiring of technical experts to identify, assess, and complete the updated community plan document, planned district ordinance regulations, local coastal program policies, and environmental impact report.
- Associated studies including traffic, urban design, economic and fiscal analysis, public facilities, and environmental studies prepared by the team of Consultants.

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING REQUEST	FUNDING RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$ 150,000	\$ 0
Grant	350,000	_350,000
Total	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>
USES OF FUNDS Hiring of technical experts for the assessment & completion		
of specific plan, regulations,	\$350,000	\$350,000 ^(a)
EIR and associated studies	150,000	0
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$350,000</u>

⁽a) The City asserts that it has obtained additional funding sources and can proceed with the project without the loan funding.

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The City of San Diego and the plan update team have been focusing on the preparation of the traffic safety study to measure the impacts of the three land use alternatives. City staff, along with the consultant team also drafted the community plan and prepared the acreage comparisons for use by the EIR consultant. The EIR consultant completed the background data for the inclusion in the EIR document and began work on the thresholds and Screencheck EIR. In addition, the planning team has started to develop the zoning program.

Due to unforeseen assessments and evaluations that were requested by the Barrio Logan Stakeholder Committee and the community, the project has been extended for an extra five months. The project is anticipated to be considered by decision-making bodies, including the Planning Commission, City Council, and Coastal Commission starting in October 2010. This will begin the adoption of the project. It is anticipated that the SCGL funds will be completely expended by September 2010.

CITY OF SAN DIEGO Continued

SCGL disbursements to date total \$129,368.92 (37% of grant award).

WILLITS

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: City of Willits

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: WILLITS WORKS ON WATER (W³) PROJECT

PROJECT LOCATION: City of Willits

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Implement aspects of a water study plan to address and solve water

shortages.

The City of Willits, population 5,073, was awarded planning funds to identify and implement aspects of a water study plan to solve water shortage issues. The City of Willits owns and operates the public water system and supplies potable water to residential, commercial, industrial and institutional customers within the City limits. Due to recent changes in hydrology and water use, the existing water infrastructure is insufficient to meet future demand.

The City plans to approach water issues with the Ahwahnee Water Principles, which provide a practical blueprint for sustainable land use practices that can improve the reliability and quality of water resources.

SCGL planning funds will be used to assist the City with the following four main project components: Rainwater harvesting demonstrations; demonstration of pond and bioswale run-off control on public land; a feasibility study and closed-system demonstration of greywater recovery; and community education and civic promotion strategies to promote water recovery.

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The resulting strategies developed from Willits' water study planning approach are anticipated to set a model framework for dealing with water shortages and implementing sustainable land-use practices via the Ahwahnee Water Principles. The reduction of pollution by preventing water runoff through rainwater collection systems, bioswales and ponds, will help with the promotion of infill development, economic development, and higher density land use. Once the water issue is resolved new development will be allowed.

DISTINGUISHING STRENGTHS

The Willits W³ Project represents a strategic, community based effort to address and solve a serious water shortage problem that many communities are dealing with. With the help of its partners, the City plans to develop a model and templates that will be available for other

CITY OF WILLITS Continued

communities with similar water issues to use. The City will be working with a professional videographer to document the planning and implementation of this project, and this film will be available to serve as a valuable guide for other communities.

SOURCES AND USES OF SCGL FUNDS

The specific use of SCGL funds includes:

- The establishment and hiring of a Water Conservation Coordinator (50% grant funds).
- The hiring of a Systems Development Contractor to carry out the design and construction of the proposed public demonstration sites.
- The hiring of a Greywater Consultant to conduct a Feasibility Study to assess soil types, water tables, and existing systems.
- Community outreach and marketing efforts, including travel and office supplies.

SOURCE OF FUNDS	FUNDING REQUEST	FUNDING RECOMMENDATION
Loan	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grant	<u>350,000</u>	323,512
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$323,512</u>
USES OF FUNDS		
Personnel	\$193,079	\$166,591 ^(A)
Greywater Consultant/ Systems Development	125,000	125,000
Contractor		
Program Promotion/	31,921	31,921
Other Expenditures		
Total	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$323,512</u>

⁽A) The City's request to fund a portion of the Community Development Director position is an ineligible cost because it is an existing position. This personnel cost and fringe benefits will continue to be covered by the City.

PROJECT STATUS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2009

The City of Willits began its search for a qualified water conservation specialist in mid-2008, but was unable to find a qualified applicant to fill the position at that time. The City re-advertised the position in April 2009, and a qualified water conservation specialist was hired and began working in August 2009.

CITY OF WILLITS Continued

There are three sites in which the City is building and demonstrating rainwater harvesting systems which include the Brookside Elementary School site, the WISC Rainwater catchment system site, and the WISC swales and ponds site. These sites are in various stages of construction and once completed the demonstrations will be videotaped and available for other communities to replicate. The winter water levels at the Brookside School site and the WISC storage site tanks are currently full with a combined total of 24,000 gallons of rainwater.

With the addition of the water conservation specialist, the City has been working on identifying a suitable location for the implementation of a demonstration greywater system. Also, in effort to get the community involved, the City has continued production and distribution of water-wise fact sheets/flyers to its residents. The information will be available on the City's new web site in early 2010.

SCGL disbursements to date total \$0 (0% of grant award). It is anticipated that the first disbursement will occur in the first quarter of 2010.

Attachment A

		2002 SCGL Awardees	
Awardee	Award	Project Description	Status
Los Angeles	\$350,000	Pedestrian Link Project	Project Completed 2007
Oakland	\$350,000	Transit Village Studies	Project Completed 2006
Concord	\$93,121	County-wide Planning Process	Project Completed 2003
Citrus Heights	\$320,000	Infill Development Database	Project Completed 2005
Santa Cruz	\$350,000	Infill Development Program	Project Completed 2007
Riverside	\$300,000	Infill Incentive Program	Project Completed 2006
San Gabriel	\$328,500	Specific Plan	Project Completed 2007
Fresno	\$316,337	Train Station Restoration	Project Completed 2004
Union City (G)	\$350,000	Transit Village Rail Study	Project Completed 2005
Union City (L)	\$150,000	Transit Village Rail Study	Project Completed 2005
Lancaster	\$300,000	Infrastructure Studies	Project Completed 2005
Bakersfield	\$143,600	Sustainable Development Strategy	Project Completed 2004
Sacramento	\$300,000	Infrastructure & Design Plans	Project Completed 2007
Redding	\$160,000	Road Construction/Pedestrian Access	Project Completed 2006
Truckee	\$350,000	Truckee Railyard	Project Completed 2007
		Development	_
Total	\$4,161,558		